

VIA ECFS

March 5, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 Twelfth Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554 Attn: Wireline Competition Bureau

Re:

WC Docket No. 10-90

Rural Broadband Experiment Expression of Interest for Price Cap Areas Southwest Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Southwest Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (SWAT) hereby expresses interest in participating in the Commission's rural broadband experiments to provide robust, scalable high-speed broadband to unserved high-cost areas with additional Connect America funding. SWAT is an ILEC serving rural areas of Arkansas, and proposes deployment as follows.

Proposed Service Area

The experiment will provide broadband service to 4,987 eligible high-cost locations in the unserved high-cost Arkansas Census Blocks with these Census Tracts:

Columbia, 5027950100

Columbia, 5027950200

Columbia, 5017950300

Columbia, 5027950400

Columbia, 5027950500

Hempstead, 5057480100

Hempstead, 5057480200

Hempstead, 5057480300

Hempstead, 5057480400

Howard, 5061950100

Howard, 5061950200

Howard, 5061950300

Miller, 5091020900

¹ See Technology Transitions et al., GN Docket No. 13-5 et al., Order, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Report and Order, Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Proposal for Ongoing Data Initiative, FCC 14-5 (rel. Jan. 31, 2014).

Nevada, 5099090100 Nevada, 5099090200 Nevada, 5099090300

The experiment will provide broadband service to 3,567 eligible high-cost locations in the unserved high-cost Texas Census Blocks with these Census Tracts:

Cass, 48067950100

Cass, 48067950200

Cass, 48067950300

Cass, 48067950400

Cass, 48067950500

Cass, 48067950600

Cass, 48067950700

The experiment will provide broadband service to 2,093 eligible high-cost locations in the unserved high-cost Louisiana Census Blocks with these Census Tracts:

Claiborne, 22027950200

Claiborne, 22027950300

Webster, 22119031100

Webster, 22119031200

Webster, 22119031300

Webster, 22119031400

Proposed Services

Voice and Broadband services with broadband transmission speeds from 6 Mbps downstream / 1 Mbps upstream up to 100 Mbps downstream provided over *Fiber to the Home* technology.

Funding

Because the unserved high-cost census blocks within the selected Census Tract(s) have yet to be identified, SWAT is unable to actuality state the actual construction costs and amount of funding needed.

As an estimate, SWAT believes the cost to provide service to these Arkansas customers to be \$17,452,000 paid over a 5 year period. The actual costs will be identified if and when a formal proposal is submitted.

As an estimate, SWAT believes the cost to provide service to these Texas customers to be \$10,603,000 paid over a 5 year period. The actual costs will be identified if and when a formal proposal is submitted.

As an estimate, SWAT believes the cost to provide service to these Louisiana customers to be \$4,678,000 paid over a 5 year period. The actual costs will be identified if and when a formal proposal is submitted.

SWAT expects service within the unserved high-cost Census Blocks to be offered within two years after construction starts.

Southwest Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Inc. appreciates the opportunity to provide this non-binding expression of interest. Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Dave Hegmann / VP - Plant Operations

Southwest Arkansas Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

870-653-8222